Violence in Gujarat after Godhra incident

799. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the violence in Gujarat has continued after Godhra incident;

(b) if so, the number of incidents of communal violence registered in Gujarat and elsewhere till date with their causes; and

(c) the steps being taken to curb communal violence in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) As per available information, 106 incidents took place in Gujarat after the Godhra train carnage on 27th February 2002. The corresponding figure for the whole country including Gujarat from March, 2002 to January, 2003 is 634. The causative factors of communal violence include religious disputes, land and other property disputes, eve teasing and sex related crimes, political rivalry and other miscellaneous factors.

(c) A number of measures are taken in a sustained manner to assist the State Governments/UT Administrations in the maintenance of peace and communal harmony. These include sharing of intelligence, providing Central Para Military Forces and army columns on specific request and financial assistance for the modernization of State Police Forces, etc. Detailed Guidelines to promote Communal Harmony have also been issued to all the States/Union Territories.

Temporary Work-Permits to Bangladeshis

800. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to prepare a national and State-wise register of illegal Bangladeshi migrants living in India;

(b) whether Government have plans to give them temporary work-permits and Identity Cards containing their Bangladeshi and Indian addresses thereon; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Training and arms to police forces of border States

†801. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide sophisticated training and arms to police forces of border States;

(b) if so, whether concerned States have been asked to formulate action plan in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no specific scheme to provide sophisticated training and arms to police forces of border States. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs is operating a Non-plan Scheme for Modernisation of the State Police Forces on a 50:50 sharing basis under which fund is allocated to all States including the border States, for various items including training and weaponry. The State Governments are expected to upgrade their training facilities for imparting training to their police forces as per requirements. Fund is allocated under the Scheme for sophisticated weapons too. The Central share under the Scheme has been raised to Rs. 1000 crore since 2000-01. The fund released to the States since 2000-01 is given in the enclosed Statement (see below).

In addition the Bureau of Police Research and Development is facilitating specialized training for police officers of all States at training institutions of the Central Para Military Forces.

In addition to the above Scheme, a Special Scheme for modernisation of the Police Forces in the border States of the North Eastern States is also being operated by the Ministry of Home Affairs since 1997-98, under which assistance is given in kind During the period 1997-98 to 2002-03 assistance worth Rs. 268.56 crore (upto December, 2002)

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.